PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

of Sheet 1

| Complete if Known | | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|--|--|--|
| Application Number | 10/052,324-Conf. #1187 | | | |
| Filing Date | January 17, 2002 | | | |
| First Named Inventor | Pere R. Debart | | | |
| Art Unit | 1644 | | | |
| Examiner Name | D. A. Saunders | | | |
| Attorney Docket Number | 02136/000K111-US0 | | | |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. | Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | | | | |

1

| | FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|-----------|--------------------------|------|---|--------------------|-----------------------------|---|----|
| Examine | | Cite | Foreign Patent Document | Publication | Name of Patentee or | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages | |
| Initials* | 4 | No.1 | Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (it known) | Date MM-DD-YYYY | Applicant of Cited Document | or Relevant Figures Appear | T⁵ |
| Du | (1 | BA | EP-0 911 037-A1 | 04-28-1999 | Hirao, Yutaka et al. | | |
| 7 | | BB | WO-95/18155-A1 | 07-06-1995 | Hodler, Gerhard et al. | | |
| | , | BC | WO-99/18130-A1 | 04-15-1999 | Bar, Lily | | |
| V | \exists | BD | WO-99/33484-A1 | 07-08-1999 | Mamidi, Raja et al. | | |

"EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 'Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 'See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.usoto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 'Senter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 'For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 'Skind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 'Applicant is to place a check mark here if English lenguage Translation is attached.

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|---|-----------------------|--|
| Examiner Initials | Cite No.1 | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ² | |
| | | | 1 | |

^{*}EXAMINER: traitial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Date Examiner Considered Signature

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.